

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

International Application No. : PCT/JP99/05153
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Priority Date(s) Claimed : 21 SEPTEMBER 1998
Applicant(s) (DO/EO/US) : TAKADA, Kanji
Title: ORAL DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR ENHANCING THE
BIOAVAILABILITY OF ACTIVE FORM OF GLYCYRRHIZIN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to calculating the national fee, and prior to examination in the National Phase of the above-identified International application, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-9.

Please add new claims 10-14 as follows:

--10. A device for colon-targeted oral delivery of glycyrrhizin comprising a suppository-like shaped article containing an amount of glycyrrhizin, said shaped article being made of a suppository base that melts or liquefies at the body temperature, and a coating film of ethylcellulose enclosing said shaped article and having such a film thickness that when the device is transported through the digestive tract to the colon, the film enclosing the liquefied suppository-like article ruptures selectively in the colon by the internal pressure generated by the peristalsis of the intestine.

11. The device according to claim 10 wherein said amount of glycyrrhizin is sufficient to overwhelm the rate of hydrolysis thereof by the intestinal flora.

12. The device according to claim 10 wherein said coating film is formed by dipping the shaped article in a solution of ethylcellulose.

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